GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6065
ANSWERED ON:11.04.2017
First Time Offenders
Venugopal Dr. Ponnusamy

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the death row convicts are first time offenders and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that around 60 per cent of them are poor and uneducated;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to grant pardon to these convicts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) & (b): No data is maintained centrally on the past criminal record and socio-economic background of prison inmates.
(c) & (d): 'Prisons' is a State subject as per Entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Under Article 161 of the Constitution of India, death row convicts can file petition for mercy to the Governor of respective State Governments. They can also file petition for mercy to the President of India under Article 72 of the Constitution.

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